Message Text

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SUBJ: CONTINUED RELEASES OF MP'S

REF: A. NEW DELHI 1244, B. NEW DELHI 1647

1. SINCE OUR LAST REPORT TWO WEEKS AGO (REFTEL A) FURTHER RELEASES OF DETAINED MP'S APPEAR TO HAVE BROUGHT THE NUMBER OF THOSE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT STILL IN JAIL DOWN TO A MERE HANDFUL. RECENT RELEASES ARE;

A. H.C. KACHWAI (FEBRUARY 5), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA FROM MADHYA PRADESH.

- B. JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI (JANUARY 29), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA FROM MADHYA PRADESH.
- C. JYOTIRMOY BOSU (FEBRUARY 7), CPM MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA FROM WEST BENGAL.
- D. RAJ NARAIN (FEBRUARY 7), SOCIALIST MEMBER OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RAJYA SABHA FROM UP. NARAIN HAD RUN AGAINST MRS GANDHI
IN THE 1971 LOK SABHA ELECTIONS IN THE RAE BARELLP
CONSTITUENCY AND LOST. IT WAS HE WHO HAD BROUGHT THE
CORRUPT CAMPAIGN PRACTICES SUIT AGAINST HER THAT EVENTUALLY
RESULTED IN THE JUNE 12, 1975 ALLAHABAD COURT VERDICT
AGAINST THE PM

- E. B.S. SHEKHAWAT (JANUARY 22), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE RAJYA SABHA FROM MADHYA PRADESH.
- 2. IN ADDITION, IT NOW APPEARS THAT ALMOST ALL OF THOSE MP'S WHO HAD BEEN RELEASED BUT REMAINED ON PAROLE HAVE NOW BEEN SET FREE UNCONDITIONALLY:
- A. MRS GYATRI DEVI, THE RAJMATA OF JAIPUR AND BLD MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM PAROLE SOMETIME IN DECEMBER.
- B. MRS SHAKUNTALA NAYAR (JANUARY 20), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA FROM UP.
- C. MUKHTIYAR SINGH MALIK (JANUARY 21), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE LOK SABHA FROM HARYANA.
- D. V.K. SAKHALECHA (FEBRUARY 3), JAN SANGH MEMBER OF THE RAJYA SABHA FROM MADHYA PRADESH.
- 3. OUR REPORT IN REFTEL A THAT CPM MP NOORUL HUDA HAD BEEN RELEASED WAS BASED ON AN ERRONEOUS REPORT IN THE "PIONEER" OF LUCKNOW; ACCORDING TO MORE RECENT NEWS ACCOUNTS, HUDA IS STILL UNDER DETENTION.
- 4. ASIDE FROM HUDA, THE RECENT RELEASES APPEAR TO LEAVE JUST FIVE MP'S UNDER DETENTION (THREE LOK SABHA, TWO RAJYA SABHA) AND ONE MP STILL ON PAROLE. OF THOSE IN THE LOK SABHA, WE SUSPECT THAT BLD MEMBER JANESHWAR MISRA IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STILL IN JAIL; AT LEAST JANATA PARTY LEADER A.B. VWJPAYEE CLAIMED THREE DAYS AGO THAT MISRA WAS STILL UNDER DETEN-TION. PHOOL CHAND VERMA (JAN SANGH FROM MADHYA PRADESH) MAY HAVE BEEN RELEASED, BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO SUCH REPORT AS YET IN THE NEWSPAPERS. SIMILARLY, AKALI DAL MP GURDAS SINGH BADAL MAY HAVE BEEN RELEASED (THE PUNJAB STATE GOVERNMENT CLAIMED ON FEBRUARY 7 THAT ALL AKALIS HAVE BEEN SET FREEL, BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF HIS NAME IN THE PAPERS. AS FOR THE TWO DETAINED MP'S IN THE RAJYA SABHA, THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT CON-CERNING PROF RAMLAL PARIKH (CONGRESS(O)). THE MISA DETEN-TION ORDER WAS REVOKED FEBRUARY 5 AGAINST CONGRESS (O) MP VIREN SHAH, BUT HE REMAINS IN JAIL UNDER DIR AS ONE OF THE ACCUSED IN THE BARODA DYNAMITE CASE. THERE HAVE BEEN NO PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING THE SOLE REMAINING MP ON PAROLE, MRS V.R. SCINDIA, AND WE PRESUME THAT SHE IS STILL ON PAROLE. AS FOR THE TWO MP'S WHO HAD RESIGNED THEIR SEATS WHILE IN JAIL, MADHU LIMAYE WAS RELEASED FEBRUARY 7. AND SHARAD YADAV WAS RELEASED THE SAME DAY BUT THEN

REARRESTED UNDER DIR.

5. IN SUM, WE CONCLUDE THAT THERE MAY BE AS MANY AS SIX MP'S STILL UNDER DETENTION AND ONE ON PAROLE, ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER COULD BE LESS. IN ANY EVENT, ONE MP (VIREN SHAB) IS NOT LIKELY TO BE RELEASED IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE SINCE HE IS BEING HELD ON CRIMINAL CHARGES. SCHNEIDER

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